



- **MR. MCLEAN EMAIL:** tmcleanenglish@gmail.com

- **WIKISPACE:** Go to <http://uhillenglish.wikispaces.com/>, scroll down to click on “Mr. McLean’s Domain” and then click on “ENGLISH 12 – Short Stories Unit”

UNIT SYNOPSIS

This unit on short stories will offer a brief review of short stories as a literary form, but will mainly serve to offer the opportunity and responsibility to contribute to and facilitate small book circles within our class. Over the course of this unit we will engage with stories and characters concerning themes of crossing physical, psychological and emotional borders, ones concerning nationality, ethnicity, culture, age, realism, class and gender. The short stories we will read have been selected based on their focus on problematizing and blurring these divides. We will navigate the gray area between these borders and see that they are not simply neat and tidy binary divisions but more akin to continuums, offering a chance to reflect on our own identity within these spaces. We will take ownership over our learning with an opportunity to engage in meaningful seminar style discussion and answer higher order thinking questions related to the borders within our own lives.

UNIT EXPECTATIONS

- Preparation for class and keeping pace with readings
- Participation in class discussion and activities
- Accountability in collaborating with peers
- An open mind towards new ideas/activities/challenges

OUR SHORT STORIES

- “Battle Royal” by Ralph Ellison
- “Boys and Girls” by Alice Munro
- “D’Sonoqua” by Emily Carr
- “A Very Old Man With Enormous Wings” by Gabriel García Márquez



UNIT MARK BREAKDOWN

- Participation (Discussion, Class Activities) Ongoing..... 20 %
 - Book Circle Facilitator/Note Taker..... 40 %
 - Literary Response 40 %
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READING AND BOOK CIRCLE SCHEDULE (BLOCK G ONLY)*

**(Make sure to refer to the book circle on the wikispace to know which days you will be the facilitator and note taker for your book circle. Copy down those dates for your own reference!)*

WEEK 1

 = a **Book Circle** class

1. March 23rd - Introduction to Unit
2. March 25th - Model Book Circle on “Battle Royal” by Ralph Ellison
3. March 27th - **Book Circle 1** on “Battle Royal” by Ralph Ellison



WEEK 2

4. March 31st - **Book Circle 2** on “Boys and Girls” by Alice Munro
5. April 2nd - **Book Circle 3** on “Boys and Girls” by Alice Munro



Easter Long Weekend (April 3rd - 6th)

WEEK 3

6. April 8th - **Book Circle 4** on “D’Sonoqua” by Emily Carr
7. April 10th - **Book Circle 5** on “A Very Old Man With Enormous Wings” by Gabriel García Márquez



WEEK 4

8. April 14th - Jigsaw Review
 9. April 16th - **In Class Literary Response**
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